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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Jerome B. Riebman et al. **Examiner:** Alyssa M. ALTER
Serial No.: 10/751,405 **Confirmation No.** 3191
Filed: January 6, 2004 **Group Art Unit:** 3762
Title: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR BLOOD FLOW ASSISTANCE

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Sir:

In follow up to the examiner interview held on November 8, 2005, the present communication presents the substance of the interview, and should be considered as part of and supplementing the amendment filed on November 30, 2005.

Applicant's representative extends his sincere gratitude to Examiners Alter and Jastrzab for graciously agreeing to an interview at the USPTO on November 8, 2005. During such interview, Applicant's representative presented a description of the invention, particularly pointing out some of the many advantages of the exemplary embodiments of the present invention. Then the prior art of record was discussed, and how the present invention is distinguishable over the prior art of record. For example, none of the prior art of record, alone or in combination, disclose or fairly suggest a device or method which includes a low-profile, non-rigid housing. The Applicant's unique geometry and design have advantages that were not appreciated or inherent in the device of the reference cited, Normann. Examiners agreed that an

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Appl. Ser. No.: 10/751,405

PATENT

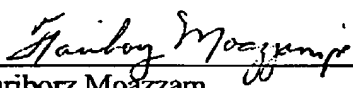
amendment to the claims reflecting such housing property would stand free of the prior art of record. It is believed that the amendments and remarks presented herein are directly reflective of the discussion of the Interview and any and all of the issues of the outstanding Office Action have been resolved and, thus, an expedited allowance of the present invention is respectfully requested.

If any fees are associated with the entering and consideration of this preliminary amendment, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account 50-2882.

As all of the outstanding rejections have been traversed and all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance. If the undersigned attorney can assist in any matters regarding examination of this application, Examiner is encouraged to call at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8 Dec 2005


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